

CLAIMS

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1. A process for enhancing immune response in a companion animal comprising the step of feeding said animal a diet containing an effective amount of a combination of vitamin E, lutein and β -carotene.

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2. The process as claimed in claim 1 wherein said diet includes from about 175 to about 400 IU of vitamin E per kilogram of diet, from about 1 to about 50 mg/day of lutein, and from about 1 to about 50 mg/day of β -carotene.

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3. The process as claimed in claim 1 wherein said companion animal is a dog.

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4. The process as claimed in claim 1 wherein said diet comprises about 18 to 40% crude protein, about 4 to 30% fat, and about 4 to 20% total dietary fiber.

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5. A process for optimizing immune cells in a dog comprising the step of feeding said dog a diet containing an effective amount of a combination of vitamin E, lutein and β -carotene.

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6. A process for optimizing vaccine recognition in a dog comprising the step of feeding said dog a diet containing an effective amount of a combination of vitamin E, lutein and β -carotene.

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7. A pet food product for enhancing immune response in a companion animal, said pet food product comprising a pet food composition containing an effective amount of a combination of vitamin E, lutein and β -carotene.

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8. The product as claimed in claim 7 wherein said composition includes from about 175 to about 400 IU of vitamin E per kilogram of diet, from about 1 to about 50 mg/day of lutein, and from about 1 to about 50 mg/day of β -carotene.

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9. The product as claimed in claim 7 wherein said companion animal is a dog.

Sub B2 10. The product as claimed in claim 7 wherein said composition comprises about 18 to 40% crude protein, about 4 to 30% fat, and about 4 to 20% total dietary fiber.